

MAY 13 1998

Refer to Legislative Secretary

The Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco Speaker Mina'Bente Kuåttro na Liheslaturan Guåhan Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature Guam Legislature Temporary Building 155 Hesler Street Hagåtña, Guam 96910

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT
Received By Jone Gamalastar
Time 12:20 p.m.
Date <u>5-13-98</u>

Dear Speaker Unpingco:

Enclosed please find Substitute Bill No. 595 (COR), "AN ACT TO REPEAL §\$12206-12228, RECODIFY §\$12201-12205, AND ADD ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, ALL TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIAN'S PRACTICE ACT.", which I have signed into law today as Public Law No. 24-208.

This legislation completely revamps the current laws on Guam relative to physician's practice. The legislation incorporates the recommendations made by the Federation of State Medical Boards and concurs with U.S. Federal Law on the subject.

The "Commission on Licensure to Practice the Healing Art in Guam" is left intact, however, the remainder of current sections relative to physician's practice is entirely changed and is much more inclusive. The legislation expands the description of "impairment" of physicians, and specifies the range of disciplinary actions available to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners to enforce the provisions of this licensing law. There are also provisions for compulsory reporting to ensure that all relevant material has been provided to the board which makes licensing decisions.

Very truly yours,

Carl T. C. Gutierrez
I Maga'lahen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

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Attachment:

copy attached for signed bill original attached for vetoed bill

cc: The Honorable Joanne M. S. Brown Legislative Secretary

Office of the Speaker
ANTONIO R. UNPINGCO
Date: 5/18/98
Time: 9:50 Am
Rec'd by: 40
Print Name: Java Men

MINA'BENTE KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN 1998 (SECOND) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'LAHEN GUAHAN

This is to certify that Substitute Bill No. 595 (COR), "AN ACT TO REPEAL §§12206-12228, RECODIFY §§12201-12205, AND ADD ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, ALL TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT," was on the (No.) day of (Month), 1998, duly and regularly passed.

NTONIO R. UNPINGCO Speaker Attested: **IOANNE M.S. BROWN** Senator and Legislative Secretary This Act was received by I Maga'lahen Guahan this 15t day of May, 1998, at 12:05 o'clock P.M. at <u>12: 05</u> o'clock <u>P</u>.M. Governor's Office APPROVED: CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ I Maga'lahen Guahan

MINA'BENTE KUATTRO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN 1998 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 595 (COR)

As substituted by the Committee on Health and Human Services and amended on the Floor.

Introduced by:

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E. J. Cruz

J. C. Salas

L. F. Kasperbauer

A. C. Blaz

T. C. Ada

F. B. Aguon, Jr.

J. M.S. Brown

Felix P. Camacho

Francisco P. Camacho

M. C. Charfauros

W. B.S.M. Flores

Mark Forbes

A. C. Lamorena, V

C. A. Leon Guerrero

L. Leon Guerrero

V. C. Pangelinan

A. L.G. Santos

F. E. Santos

A. R. Unpingco

J. Won Pat-Borja

AN ACT TO REPEAL §\$12206-12228, RECODIFY §\$12201-12205, AND ADD ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, ALL TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

1	Section 1. Repeal.	Sections 12206 through 12228 of Article 2,
2	Chapter 12 of Title 10 of the	Guam Code Annotated are hereby repealed.
3	Section 2. Transfer.	Sections 12201 through 12205 of Article 2,
4	Chapter 12 of Title 10 of th	e Guam Code Annotated are hereby recodified to
5	and made a part of Artic	ele 1, Chapter 12 of Title 10 of the Guam Code
6	Annotated. The Compiler	of Laws is hereby authorized to renumber and/or
7	codify those Sections transf	erred herein.
8	Section 3. Article 2	is hereby added to Chapter 12 of Title 10 of the
9	Guam Code Annotated to r	ead as follows:
10		"ARTICLE 2.
11	PHY	SICIANS PRACTICE ACT.
12	Section 12201.	Statement of Policy.
13	Section 12202.	Definitions.
14	Section 12203.	Guam Board of Medical Examiners.
,15	Section 12204.	Examinations.
16	Section 12205.	Requirements for Full Licensure.
17	Section 12206.	Graduates of Foreign Medical Schools.
18	Section 12207.	Licensure by Endorsement and Temporary and
19		Special Licensure.
20	Section 12208.	Limited Licensure for Physicians in
21		Postgraduate Training.
22	Section 12209.	Disciplinary Action Against Licensees.
23	Section 12210.	Impaired Physicians.
24	Section 12211.	Compulsory Reporting and Investigation.
25	Section 12212.	Protected Action and Communication.

Unlawful Practice of Medicine: Violations and Section 12213. 1 Penalties. 2 3 Section 12214. Renewal of Licensure. Section 12215. 4 Rules and Regulations. 5 Section 12216. Funding and Fees. Section 12201. Statement of Policy. The practice of medicine 6 is a privilege granted by the people acting through their elected 7 8 representatives. It is not a natural right of individuals. In the interests 9 of public health, safety and welfare, and to protect the public from the unprofessional, improper, incompetent, unlawful, fraudulent and/or 10 deceptive practice of medicine, it is necessary to provide laws and 11 12 regulations to govern the granting and subsequent use of the privilege 13 to practice medicine. The primary responsibility and obligation of the 14 Guam Board of Medical Examiners is to protect the people of Guam. .15 Section 12202. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this 16 Article, the definition of the practice of medicine should include the 17 following words and phrases which are defined to mean: 18 (1)advertising, holding out to the public or representing 19 in any manner that one is authorized to practice medicine in the 20 jurisdiction; 21 offering or undertaking to prescribe, order, give or 22 administer any drug or medicine for the use of any other person; 23 (3)offering or undertaking to prevent or to diagnose, 24 correct and/or treat in any manner or by any means, methods, or

devices any disease, illness, pain, wound, fracture, infirmity,

defect or abnormal physical or mental condition of any person, including the management of pregnancy and parturition;

- (4) offering or undertaking to perform any surgical operation upon any person;
- (5) rendering a written or otherwise documented medical opinion concerning the diagnosis or treatment of a patient, or the actual rendering of treatment to a patient within a state by a physician located outside the state as a result of transmission of individual patient data by electronic or other means from within a state to such physician or his or her agent;
- (6) rendering determination of medical necessity or appropriateness of proposed treatment; and
- (7) using the designation Doctor, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Physician, Surgeon, Physician and Surgeon, Dr., M.D., D.O. or any combination thereof in the conduct of any occupation or profession pertaining to the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of human disease or condition, unless such a designation additionally contains the description of another branch of the healing arts for which one holds a valid license in the jurisdiction.
- (b) The definition of exceptions to the Act include the following:
- (1) students while engaged in training in a medical school approved by the Guam Board of Medical Examiners, or while engaged in graduate medical training under the supervision of the

medical staff of a hospital or other health care facility approved by the Guam Board of Medical Examiners for such training, except that those engaged in graduate medical training shall hold a limited license issued by the Guam Board of Medical Examiners for such training;

- (2) those providing service in cases of emergency where no fee or other consideration is contemplated, charged or received;
- (3) commissioned medical officers of the armed forces of the United States and medical officers of the United States Public Health Service or the Veterans Administration of the United States in the discharge of their official duties and/or within Federally controlled facilities, provided that such persons who hold medical licenses in the jurisdiction should be subject to the provisions of the Act and provided that all such persons should be fully licensed to practice medicine in one (1) or more jurisdictions of the United States;
- (4) those practicing dentistry, nursing, optometry, podiatry, psychology or any other of the healing arts in accord with, and as provided by the laws of Guam;
- (5) those practicing the tenets of a religion or ministering to the sick or suffering by mental or spiritual means in accord with such tenets, provided that no person should be exempt from the public health laws of Guam or the Federal government;

(6) a person administering a lawful domestic or family remedy to a member of his or her own family; and

(7) those fully licensed to practice medicine in another jurisdiction of the United States who briefly render emergency medical treatment or briefly provide critical medical service at the specific lawful direction of a medical institution or Federal agency that assumes full responsibility for that treatment or service and is approved by the state medical board.

Section 12203. Guam Board of Medical Examiners. (a) There is established, in and for the government of Guam, a Guam Board of Medical Examiners (the 'BOARD') composed of seven (7) members appointed by *I Maga'lahen Guahan*.

(b) At least six (6) of the seven (7) members shall be physicians licensed in Guam, shall be person of recognized professional ability and integrity, and shall have practiced in Guam for at least five (5) years. All members shall be citizens or permanent residents of the United States who have resided in Guam for five (5) years. One (1) of the physician board member shall be the Medical Director of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority ('GMHA') who meets the above criteria otherwise *I Maga'lahen Guahan* shall appoint a qualified physician from the GMHA staff. Provided that of the initial members appointed under this Article, appointments shall be made so that three (3) members of the Board, sitting or newly appointed, shall serve for two (2) years, and four (4) members, sitting or newly appointed shall serve for a term of

four (4) years, until a successor is appointed and qualified. No member shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms.

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The members of the Board sitting at the date of enactment of this Article who meet the requirements and limitations placed upon membership by this Article shall remain in office until the expiration of their respective terms. When a vacancy occurs, I Maga'lahen Guahan shall appoint a new member within sixty (60) days of the commencement of the vacancy. Members of the Board shall receive a stipend and be compensated in the amount of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for attending a Board meeting, not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) a month.

- (c) The Guam Board of Medical Examiners, within the context of this Article and the requirements of due process, shall have the following powers and responsibilities:
 - promulgate rules and regulations;
 - 2. select and administer licensing examination(s);
 - 3. evaluate medical education and training of applicants;
 - 4. evaluate previous professional performance of applicants;
 - 5. issue or deny initial or endorsement licenses;
 - 6. approve or deny applications for license re-registration and renewal:
 - 7. receive, review and investigate complaints;

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- 8. receive, review and investigate reports received from law enforcement agencies, health care organizations, governmental agencies, insurers and other entities having information pertinent to the professional performance of licensees;
- 9. issue subpoenas, subpoenas duces tecum, administer oaths, receive testimony and conduct hearings;
- 10. discipline licensees found in violation of the Medical Practice Act;
- 11. institute actions in its own name and enjoin violators of the Medical Practice Act;
- 12. establish appropriate fees and charges to include support of active and effective pursuit of its legal responsibilities;
- 13. re-instate revoked license at its discretion, but to use such discretionary authority in a consistent manner and with great assurances that the re-instatement of a license will not jeopardize the public; and
 - 14. develop and adopt its budget.

(d) Immunity.

There should be no liability, monetary or otherwise, on the part of, and no cause of action for damages should arise against any current or former member, officer, administrator, staff member, committee member, examiner, representative, agent, employee, consultant, witness or any other person serving or having served the Board, either as a part of the Board's operation

or as an individual, as a result of any act, omission, proceeding, conduct or decision related to his or her duties undertaken or performed in good faith and within the scope of the function of the Board.

(e) Indemnity.

If a current or former member, officer, administrator, staff member, committee member, examiner, representative, agent, employee, consultant or any other person serving or having served the Board requests the government to defend him or her against any claim or action arising out of any act, omission, proceeding, conduct or decision related to his or her duties undertaken, or performed in good faith and within the scope of the function of the Board, and if such a request is made in writing at a reasonable time before trial, and if the person requesting defense cooperates in good faith in the defense of the claim or action, the government should provide and pay for such defense and should pay any resulting judgment, compromise or settlement.

- (f) A member of the Board should be subject to removal when he or she:
 - 1. ceases to be qualified;
 - 2. is found guilty of a felony or an unlawful act involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction;

1	3. is found guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance or		
2	nonfeasance in relation to his or her Board duties by a court of		
3	competent jurisdiction;		
4	4. is found mentally incompetent by a court of competent		
5	jurisdiction;		
6	5. fails to attend three (3) successive Board meetings		
7	without just cause as determined by the Board; or		
8	6. is found in violation of the Physicians Practice Act.		
9	(g) All physician members of the Board should hold full and		
10	unrestricted medical licenses in Guam, should be persons of recognized		
11	professional ability and integrity, and should have resided in Guam at		
12	least five (5) years and practiced in the jurisdiction long enough to have		
13	become familiar with policies and practice in the jurisdiction.		
14	(h) The Board's public member who:		
15	1. is not a licensed physician or provider of health care;		
16	2. have no substantial personal or financial interests in		
17	the practice of medicine, or with any organization regulated by		
18	the Board; and		
19	3. is a resident of Guam.		
20	(i) The Board should be authorized to appoint committees from		
21	its membership and employ an executive secretary or director and other		
22	staff, including an adequate staff of investigators, to effectively perform		
23	its duties under the Act. It should also be assigned adequate legal		

- counsel by the Office of the Attorney General and/or be authorized to employ private counsel or its own full-time attorney.
- (j) Travel, expenses and daily compensation should be paid for each Board member's attendance, in or out of Guam, for education or training purposes directly related to Board duties and approved by the Board.
- (k) Telephone or other telecommunication conference should be an acceptable form of Board meeting for the purpose of taking emergency action to enforce the Physicians Practice Act, if the president alone or another officer and two (2) Board members believe the situation precludes another form of meeting. The Board should be authorized to establish procedures by which its committees may meet by telephone or other telecommunication conference system to take emergency action.

Section 12204. Examinations.

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(a) Medical Licensing Examination(s).

- (1) No person shall receive a license to practice medicine in Guam unless he or she has passed an examination or examinations satisfactory to the Board, including the National Board of Medical Examiners, FLEX, USMLE or future national examination.
- (2) The Board shall approve the preparation and administration of an examination or examinations, in English, that it deems must be satisfactorily passed as part of its procedure for determining an applicant's qualification for the practice of medicine.

- (3) Examinations shall be scored in a way to ensure the anonymity of applicants.
- (4) Examinations shall be conducted at least annually, provided there are five (5) applicants of which one (1) of the applicants must be a resident of Guam.
- (5) The Board shall stipulate the score required for passing the examination(s). The required passing score should be set before the administration of the examination(s).
- (6) Applicants shall be required to pass all examinations within a specific period of time after initial application in any jurisdiction. Specific requirements for the satisfactory completion of further medical education should be established by the Board for those applicants seeking to be examined after the specified passing period.
- (7) The Board shall be authorized to limit the number of times an examination may be taken before the satisfactory completion of further medical education is required of an applicant.
- (8) Fees for any examination shall be paid by an applicant before the examination is given in accordance with specified deadlines.
- (b) Examination Application. To apply for examination(s), an applicant shall provide the Board, and attest to the following information and documentation, no later than a date set by the Board:

- (1) his or her full name and all aliases or other names ever used, current address, social security number and date and place of birth;
- (2) a recent signed photograph, a handwriting sample (A set of fingerprints of the applicant may be requested if available.);
- (3) an original of all documents and credentials required by the Board, or notarized photocopies or other verification acceptable to the Board of such documents and credentials;
- (4) a list of all jurisdictions, United States or foreign, in which the applicant is licensed, or has applied for licensure, to practice medicine, or is authorized, or has applied for authorization to practice medicine;
- (5) a list of all jurisdictions, United States or foreign, in which the applicant has been denied licensure or authorization to practice medicine or has voluntarily surrendered a license or an authorization to practice medicine;
- (6) a list of all sanctions, judgments, awards, settlements or convictions against the applicant in any jurisdiction, United States or foreign, that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action under the Medical Practice Act or the Board's rules and regulations;
- (7) a detailed educational history, including places, institutions, dates and program descriptions, of all his or her education, beginning with secondary schooling and including all

college, pre-professional, professional and professional postgraduate education;

- (8) a detailed chronological life history, including places and dates of residence, employment and military service, United States or foreign; and
- (9) any other information or documentation the Board determines necessary.

(c) Examination Security.

- (1) Any individual found by the Board to have engaged in conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert the medical licensing examination process should, at the discretion of the Board, have his or her scores on the licensing examination withheld and/or declared invalid, be disqualified from the practice of medicine and/or be subject to the imposition of other appropriate sanctions. The Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States should be informed of all such actions.
- (2) Conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert the medical licensing examination process should include, but not be limited to:
 - (a) conduct that violates the security of the examination materials, such as removing from the examination room any of the examination materials; reproducing or reconstructing any portion of the licensing examination; aiding by any means in the reproduction or reconstruction of any portion of the licensing examination;

selling, distributing, buying, receiving or having unauthorized possession of any portion of a future, current or previously administered licensing examination;

- (b) conduct that violates the standard of test administration, such as communicating with any other examinee during the administration of the licensing examination; copying answers from another examinee or permitting one's answers to be copied by another examinee during the administration of the licensing examination; having in one's possession during the administration of the licensing examination any books, notes, written or printed materials or data of any kind, other than the examination distributed; and/or
- (c) conduct that violates the credentialing process, such as falsifying or misrepresenting educational credentials or other information required for admission to the licensing examination; impersonating an examinee or having an impersonator take the licensing examination on one's behalf.
- (3) The Board shall provide written notification to all applicants for medical licensure of the prohibitions on conduct that subverts or attempts to subvert the licensing examination process, and of the sanctions imposed for such conduct. A copy of such notification attesting that he or she read and understood the

notification should be signed by the applicant and filed with his or 1 her application. 2 3 Section 12205. Requirements for Full Licensure. applicant shall provide the Board and attest to the following 4 5 information and documentation in a manner required by the Board: his or her full name and all aliases or other names ever 6 (1)used, current address, social security number, and date and place 7 8 of birth: 9 a recent signed photograph, a set of fingerprints of the (2)applicant, if requested, and a sample of handwriting; 10 originals of all documents and credentials required by 11 (3)12 the Board, or notarized photocopies or other verification acceptable to the Board of such documents and credentials; 13 14 a list of all jurisdictions, United States or foreign, in 15 which the applicant is licensed, or has applied for licensure to 16 practice medicine, or is authorized or has applied for 17 authorization to practice medicine; 18 (5)a list of all jurisdictions, United States or foreign, in 19 which the applicant has been denied licensure or authorization to 20 practice medicine or has voluntarily surrendered a license or an 21 authorization to practice medicine; 22 a list of all sanctions, judgments, awards, settlements

or convictions against the applicant in any jurisdiction, United

States or foreign, that would constitute grounds for disciplinary

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(a)

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action under the Medical Practice Act or the Board's rules and regulations;

- (7) a detailed educational history, including places, institutions, dates and program descriptions of all his or her education, beginning with secondary schooling and including all college, pre-professional, professional and professional postgraduate education;
- (8) a detailed chronological life history, including places and dates of residence, employment and military service, United States or foreign; and
- (9) any other information or documentation the Board determines necessary.
- (b) The applicant shall possess the degree of Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy from a medical college or school located in the United States, its territories or possessions, or Canada that was approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board at the time the degree was conferred. No person who graduated from a medical school that was not so approved at the time of graduation should be examined for licensure, or be licensed in Guam based on credentials or documentation from that school.
- (c) The applicant shall have satisfactorily completed at least thirty-six (36) months of progressive postgraduate medical training approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board in an institution in the United States, its

territories or possessions, or Canada approved by the Board or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board.

- (d) The applicant shall have passed medical licensing examination(s) satisfactory to the Board.
- (e) The applicant shall have demonstrated a familiarity with the statutes and regulations of Guam relating to the practice of medicine and the appropriate use of controlled or dangerous substances.
- (f) The applicant shall be physically, mentally and professionally capable of practicing medicine in a manner acceptable to the Board and should be required to submit to a physical, mental or professional competency examination or a drug dependency evaluation if deemed necessary by the Board.
- (g) The applicant shall not have been found guilty by a competent authority, United States or foreign, of any conduct that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action under the regulations of the Board or the Act. The Board should be authorized, at its discretion, to modify this restriction for cause, but it should be directed to use such discretionary authority in a consistent manner.
- (h) The applicant, at the discretion of the Board, shall make a personal appearance before the Board or a representative thereof for interview, examination or review of credentials at the request of the Board. At the discretion of the Board, the applicant may be required to present his or her original medical education credentials for inspection at the time of personal appearance.

(i) The applicant shall be held responsible for verifying to the satisfaction of the Board the validity of all credentials required for his or her medical licensure. The Board shall review and verify medical credentials and screen applicant records through recognized national physician information services (e.g. the Federation of State Medical Boards' Board Action Data Bank and Credentials Verification Service, the files of the American Medical Association and the American Osteopathic Association, and other national data banks and information resources).

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(j) The applicant shall have paid all fees and have completed and attested to the accuracy of all application and information forms required by the Board.

Section 12206. Graduates of Foreign Medical Schools.

- (a) Such applicants shall possess the degree of Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, Bachelor of Medicine or Osteopathy, or a Board-approved equivalent based on satisfactory completion of educational programs acceptable to the Board.
- (b) Such applicants shall be eligible by virtue of their medical education and training for unrestricted licensure or authorization to practice medicine in the country in which they received that education and training.
- (c) Such applicants shall have passed an examination acceptable to the Board that adequately assesses the applicants' basic medical knowledge.

Such applicants shall be certified by the Educational 1 (d) Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates or its Board-approved 2 3 successor(s), or by an equivalent Board-approved entity. Such applicants shall have a demonstrated command of the 4 5 English or Chamorro language satisfactory to the Board. 6 (f) The Board shall be authorized to establish regulations 7 requiring all such applicants to satisfactorily complete at least thirty-six 8 (36) months of Board approved, progressive postgraduate medical 9 training. All credentials, diplomas and other required documentation 10 11 in a foreign language submitted to the Board by or on behalf of such 12 applicants shall be accompanied by notarized English translations 13 acceptable to the Board. 14 Such applicants shall have satisfied all of the applicable .15 requirements of the United States Immigration and Naturalization 16 Service. 17 Section 12207. Licensure by Endorsement and Temporary and 18 Special Licensure. 19 Licensure Without Examination. The Board is authorized, (a) 20 at its discretion, to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who: 21 has complied with all current medical licensing 22 requirements save that for examination; 23 2. has passed a medical licensing examination given in 24 English in another state, the District of Columbia, a territory or

possession of the United States or Canada, provided the Board

determines that examination was equivalent to its own current examination;

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- 3. has a valid current medical license in another state, the District of Columbia, a territory or possession of the United States or Canada; and
- 4. Required to take SPEX if last examination was taken more than ten (10) years ago.
- (b) Endorsement for Certified Applicants: The Board is authorized, at its discretion, to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who:
 - 1. has complied with all current medical licensing requirements save that for examination; and
 - 2. has passed the examination of and been certified by a certifying agency recognized by the Board (e.g., the National Board of Medical Examiners or the National Board of Examiners for Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons), provided the Board determines that examination was equivalent to its own current examination and was not a specialty board examination.
- (c) Endorsement Examination: Notwithstanding any other provisions of the act, the Board is authorized to require applicants for full and unrestricted medical licensure by endorsement who have not been formally tested by a United States or Canadian medical licensing jurisdiction, a Board-approved medical certifying agency or a Board-approved medical specialty board within a specific period of time

before application (e.g. eight (8) or ten (10) years to pass a written 1 2 and/or oral medical examination approved by the Board for that 3 purpose.) 4 (d) Temporary Licensure. The Board is authorized to establish 5 regulations for issuance of a temporary medical license for the intervals between Board meetings. Such a license should: 6 be granted only to an applicant demonstrably 7 8 qualified for a full and unrestricted medical license under the 9 requirements set by the Medical Practice Act and the regulations 10 of the Board: and 11 automatically terminate on the date of the next Board 2. 12 meeting at which the holder could be considered for a full and 13 unrestricted medical license. 14 $\sqrt{315}$

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- (e) Special Purpose License to Practice Medicine Across Guam/State Lines. The Board is authorized, at its discretion, to issue a special purpose license to practice medicine across Guam lines to an applicant who:
 - 1. holds a full and unrestricted license to practice in at least one (1) other state or United States jurisdiction;
 - 2. has not had previous disciplinary or other action taken against him or her by any state or jurisdiction; and
 - 3. must be at least qualified to be licensed in Guam. Exceptions to the special purpose license to practice medicine across Guam lines include the following:

- 1. the practice of medicine across state lines by a licensed physician on an irregular or infrequent basis, provided such practice occurs less than once a week or involves less than one percent (1%) of the physician's diagnostic or therapeutic practice;
- 2. the informal practice of medicine by a licensed physician is without compensation or expectation of compensation. (The practice of medicine conducted within the parameters of a contractual relationship shall not be considered informal and shall be subject to regulation by the Guam Board of Medical Examiners.);
- 3. physician specialist, or field of authority is not available locally; and
- 4. the practice of medicine in terms of diagnosis and treatment of a patient is under the responsibility of a locally licensed physician.
- (f) Special Licensure. The Board is authorized to issue conditional, restricted or otherwise circumscribed licenses as it determines necessary.

Section 12208. Limited Licensure for Physicians in Postgraduate Training. (a) To be eligible for limited licensure, the applicant should have completed all the requirements for full and unrestricted medical licensure, except postgraduate training or specific examination requirements.

(b) The application for limited licensure shall be made directly to the Board in the jurisdiction where the applicant's postgraduate training is to take place. The institution supervising the applicant's postgraduate training program director shall have established procedures whereby the status of an applicant's limited license is verified prior to acceptance into a postgraduate training program, and such acceptance shall be made only after an applicant demonstrates that he or she holds a limited license issued by the Board specifically for the purpose of postgraduate training.

- (c) The Board shall be directed to establish by regulation restrictions for the limited license to assure that the holder will practice only under appropriate supervision and at locations acceptable to the Board.
- (d) The limited license shall be renewable annually with the approval of the Board and upon the written recommendation of the supervising institution, including a written evaluation of performance, until such time as Board regulations require the achievement of full and unrestricted medical licensure.
- (e) The program directors responsible for postgraduate training shall report to the Board, in writing, any disciplinary actions taken against an individual with a limited license. They shall also report to the Board, in writing, any individual who has not been advanced in the program or who has been dropped from the program for performance or ethical reasons. Directors of postgraduate training programs should

also be required to submit an annual written report to the Board on all individuals enrolled in their programs. This annual report shall include any disciplinary actions taken against, or restrictions placed upon, any individual in the program. The report shall also include the reason(s) for any individual's failure to advance in the program, as well as a full explanation of any individual's absence from the program of fourteen (14) days or more. Failure to submit such a report to the Board shall be considered a violation of the mandatory reporting provisions of the Medical Practice Act, and shall be grounds to initiate such disciplinary action as the Board deems appropriate, including fines levied against the supervising institution and suspension of the program director's medical license.

- (f) The disciplinary provisions of the Physicians Practice Act shall apply to the holders of the limited license as if they held full and unrestricted medical licensure.
- (g) The issuance of a limited license shall not be construed to imply that a full and unrestricted medical license will be issued at any future date.

Section 12209. Disciplinary Action Against Licensees.

- (a) Range of Actions. The range of disciplinary actions available to the Board include, but not limited to, the following:
 - 1. revocation of the medical license;
 - 2. suspension of the medical license;
 - 3. probation;

1	4. stipulations, limitations, restrictions and conditions
2	relating to practice;
3	5. censure, including specific redress, if appropriate;
4	6. reprimand;
5	7. chastisement;
6	8. monetary redress to another party;
7	9. a period of free public or charity service;
8	10. satisfactory completion of an educational, training
9	and/or treatment program or programs;
10	11. fine; and
11	12. payment of disciplinary costs.
12	The Board at its discretion may take such actions singly or ir
13	combination as the nature of the violation requires.
14	(b) Letter of Concern. The Board is authorized to issue a
,15	confidential letter of concern to a licensee when, though evidence does
16	not warrant formal proceedings, the Board has noted indications of
17	possible errant conduct by the licensee that could lead to serious
18	consequences and formal action. In its letter of concern the Board is
19	authorized, at its discretion, to request clarifying information from the
20	licensee.
21	(c) Examination/Evaluation. The Board is authorized, at its
22	discretion, to require professional competency, physical, mental or
23	chemical dependency examination(s) or evaluation(s) of any applicant

or licensee, including withdrawal and laboratory examination of bodily 1 2 fluids. The Board is authorized to take 3 (d) Grounds for Action. disciplinary action for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, which 4 5 should be defined to mean, but not be limited to, the following: fraud or misrepresentation in applying for 6 1. 7 procuring a medical license or in connection with applying for or 8 procuring periodic re-registration of a medical license; 9 cheating on, or attempting to subvert, the medical 10 licensing examination(s); the commission or conviction of a gross misdemeanor 11 3. 12 or a felony, related to the practice of medicine, or the entry of a 13 guilty or nolo contendere plea to a gross misdemeanor or a felony 14 charge; 15 4. conduct likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public; 16 5. making a false or misleading statement regarding his 17 or her skill, or the efficacy or value of the medicine treatment or 18 remedy prescribed by him or her or at his or her direction in the 19 treatment of any disease or other condition of the body or mind; 20 representing to a patient that an incurable condition, 21 sickness, disease or injury can be cured;

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willfully or negligently violating the confidentiality

between physician and patient, except as required by law;

1	o. negligence in the practice of medicine as determined
2	by the Board;
3	9. being found mentally incompetent or of unsound
4	mind by any court of competent jurisdiction;
5	10. being physically or mentally unable to engage safely in
6	the practice of medicine;
7	11. practice or other behavior that demonstrates an
8	incapacity or incompetence to practice medicine;
9	12. the use of any false, fraudulent or deceptive statement
10	in any document connected with the practice of medicine;
11	13. practicing medicine under a false or assumed name;
12	14. aiding or abetting the practice of medicine by an
13	unlicensed, incompetent or impaired person;
14	15. allowing another person or organization to use his or
15	her license to practice medicine;
16	16. commission of any act of sexual misconduct, which
17	exploits the physician-patient relationship in a sexual way;
18	17. habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs, alcohol or
19	other substances that impair ability;
20	18. prescribing, selling, administering, distributing,
21	ordering or giving any drug legally classified as a controlled
22	substance, or recognized as an addictive or dangerous drug for
23	other than medically accepted therapeutic purposes;

violating any state or Federal law or regulation 1 19. relating to controlled substances; 2 fraud, deceit obtaining by any fee 3 4 misrepresentation; employing fraudulent billing practices; 5 21. directly or indirectly giving or receiving any fee, 22. 6 commission, rebate or other compensation for professional 7

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- services not actually and personally rendered, though this prohibition should not preclude the legal functioning of lawful professional partnerships, corporations or associations; disciplinary action of another state or jurisdiction 23.
- against a license or other authorization to practice medicine based upon acts or conduct by the licensee similar to acts or conduct that would constitute grounds for action as defined in this Section, a certified copy of the record of the action taken by the other state or jurisdiction being conclusive evidence thereof;
- 24. failure to report to the Board any adverse action taken against him or her by another licensing jurisdiction, United States or foreign, by any peer review body, by any health care institution, by any professional or medical society or association, by any governmental agency, by any law enforcement agency or by any court for acts or conduct similar to acts or conduct that would constitute grounds for action as defined in this Section;

or

- 25. failure to report to the Board surrender of a license or other authorization to practice medicine in another state or jurisdiction, or surrender of membership on any medical staff or in any medical or professional association or society while under disciplinary investigation by any of those authorities or bodies for acts or conduct similar to acts or conduct that would constitute grounds for action as defined in this Section;
- 26. any adverse judgment, award or settlement against the licensee resulting from a medical liability claim related to acts or conduct similar to acts or conduct that would constitute grounds for action as defined in this Section;
- 27. failure to report to the Board any adverse judgment, settlement or award arising from a medical liability claim related to acts or conduct similar to acts or conduct that would constitute grounds for action as defined in this Section;
- 28. failure to transfer pertinent and necessary medical records to another physician in a timely fashion when legally requested to do so by the subject patient or by a legally designated representative of the subject patient;
 - 29. improper management of medical records;
- 30. failure to furnish the Board, its investigators or representatives, information legally requested by the Board;
- 31. failure to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the Board;

- 32. willful negligence in complying with the regulations of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners or the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners pertaining to physician supervision of physician assistants and advance nurse practitioners;
- 33. violation of any provision(s) of the Medical Practice Act or the rules and regulations of the Board or of an action, stipulation or agreement of the Board;
- 34. failure to follow generally accepted infection control procedures; and
- 35. failure to comply with any state statute or board regulation regarding a licensee's reporting responsibility for HIV, HVB (hepatitis B virus) or HVC (hepatitis C virus) sero-positive status.

Section 12210. Procedures for Enforcement and Disciplinary Action. (a) Board Authority. The Board is empowered to commence legal action to enforce the provisions of the Medical Practice Act and to exercise full discretion and authority with respect to disciplinary actions.

- (b) Separation of Functions. In the exercise of its power, the Board's investigative and judicial functions are to assure fairness and the Board should be required to act in a consistent manner in the application of disciplinary sanctions.
- (c) Administrative Procedures. The existing administrative procedures act or similar statute, in whole or in part, should either be applicable to, or serve as the basis of, the procedural provisions of the

Medical Practice Act. The procedural provisions should provide for investigation of charges by the Board; notice of charges to the accused; an opportunity for a fair and impartial hearing for the accused before the Board or its examining committee; an opportunity for representation of the accused by counsel; the presentation of testimony, evidence and argument; subpoena power and attendance of witnesses; a record of proceedings; and judicial review by the courts in accordance with the standards established by the jurisdiction for such review.

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- (d) Standard of Proof. The Board should be authorized to use preponderance of the evidence as the standard of proof in its role as trier of fact.
- (e) Informal Conference. Notwithstanding any provision of law, the Board is authorized at its discretion to meet in informal conference with an accused licensee who seeks, or agrees to, such a conference. Disciplinary action taken against a licensee as a result of such an informal conference and agreed to in writing by the Board and the accused licensee should be binding and a matter of public record. However, license revocation and suspension shall be dealt with in open hearing. The holding of an informal conference shall not preclude an open hearing if the Board determines such is necessary.
- (f) Summary Suspension. The Board is authorized to summarily suspend a license prior to a formal hearing when it believes such action is required due to imminent threat to public health and safety. The Board is authorized to summarily suspend a license by

means of a vote conducted by telephone conference call, or other electronic means, if appropriate Board officials believe such prompt action is required. Proceedings for a formal hearing should be instituted simultaneously with the summary suspension. The hearing shall be set within thirty (30) days of the date of the summary suspension. No court action shall lift or otherwise interfere with such suspension while the Board proceeds in a timely fashion. However, the Board shall at the request of the court provide a brief summary.

- (g) Cease and Desist Orders/Injunctions. The Board is authorized to issue a cease and desist order and/or obtain an injunction to restrain any person or any corporation or association and its officers and directors from violating the provisions of the Medical Practice Act. Violation of an injunction should be punishable as contempt of court. No proof of actual damage to any person is required for issuance of a cease and desist order and/or an injunction, nor should issuance of an injunction relieve those enjoined from criminal prosecution for violation of the Medical Practice Act.
- (h) Board Action Reports. All the Board's final disciplinary actions and license denials, including related findings of fact and conclusions of law, shall be matters of public record. Such actions and denials shall be promptly reported to the Board Action Data Bank of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States within thirty (30) days of the action being taken, to any other data repository required by law and to the media. Voluntary surrender of and voluntary

limitation(s) on the medical license of any person shall also be matters of public record and shall also be reported to the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States and to any other data repository required by law.

(i) Tolling Periods of License Suspension or Restriction. The Board shall provide, in cases of license suspension or restriction, that any time during which the disciplined physician practices in another jurisdiction without comparable restriction, it shall not be credited as part of the period of suspension or restriction.

Section 12211. Impaired Physicians. (a) For purposes of this Article the term "*impairment*" is defined as the inability of a licensee to practice medicine with reasonable skill and safety by reason of:

1. mental illness; or

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- 2. physical illness, or condition, including, but not limited to, those illnesses or conditions that would adversely effect cognitive, motor or perceptive skills; or
- 3. habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs, defined by law as controlled substances, of alcohol or of other substances that impair ability.
- (b) The Board shall have available to it an impaired physician program approved by the Board and charged with the management of physicians who are in need of evaluation and treatment. Such programs may either be provided under the auspices of the Board, or through a

formalized contract with an independent entity whose program meets the standards set by the Board.

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- The Board shall be authorized, at its discretion, to require a licensee or applicant to submit to a mental or physical examination, or a chemical dependency evaluation conducted by an independent evaluator designated by the Board. The results of the examination or evaluation should be admissible in any hearing before the Board, despite any claim of privilege under a contrary rule or statute. Every person who receives a license to practice medicine, or who files an application for a license to practice medicine, shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to mental or physical examination or a chemical dependency evaluation, and to have waived all objections to the admissibility of the results in any hearing before the Board. If a licensee or applicant fails to submit to an examination or evaluation when properly directed to do so by the Board, unless failure was due to circumstances deemed to be beyond the licensee's control, the Board shall be permitted to enter a final order upon proper notice, hearing and proof of refusal.
- (d) If the Board finds, after examination and hearing, that a licensee is impaired, the Board is authorized to take one (1) or more of the following actions:
 - 1. direct the licensee to submit to care, counseling or treatment acceptable to the Board;

- 2. suspend, limit or restrict the physician's medical license for the duration of the impairment; and/or
 - 3. revoke the physician's medical license.

- (e) Any licensee or applicant who is prohibited from practicing medicine under this provision shall, at reasonable intervals, be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that he or she can resume or begin the practice of medicine with reasonable skill and safety. A license shall not be reinstated, however, without the payment of all applicable fees and the fulfillment of all requirements as if the applicant had not been prohibited.
- in accordance with the mandatory reporting requirements of the Medical Practice Act, unidentified and unreported impaired physicians shall be encouraged to seek treatment. To this end the Board shall be authorized, at its discretion, to establish rules and regulations for the review and approval of a medically directed, Impaired Physician Program ('IPP'). Those conducting a Board approved IPP treatment program shall be exempt from the mandatory reporting requirement relating to an impaired physician who is participating satisfactorily in the program, or their report shall be held in confidence and without action by the Board, unless or until the impaired physician ceases to participate satisfactorily in the program. The Board shall require that any impaired physician whose participation in an approved IPP is unsatisfactory shall be reported to the Board as soon as that

determination is made. Participation in an approved IPP shall not protect an impaired physician from Board action resulting from a report of his or her impairment from another source. The Board shall be the final authority for approval of an IPP and shall be permitted to withdraw or deny its approval at its discretion.

Section 12212. Compulsory Reporting and Investigation.

(a) Any person shall be permitted to report to the Board in writing any information he or she has reason to believe indicates a medical licensee is, or may be, medically incompetent, guilty of unprofessional conduct, or mentally or physically unable to engage safely in the practice of medicine.

The following shall be required to report to the Board promptly and in writing any information that indicates a licensee is, or may be, medically incompetent, guilty of unprofessional conduct, or mentally or physically unable to engage safely in the practice of medicine; and any restriction, limitation, loss, or denial of a licensee's staff privileges or membership that involves patient care:

- 1. all physicians licensed under the Act;
- 2. all licensed health care providers;
- 3. the state medical association and its components;
- 4. all hospitals and other health care institutions in Guam, to include hospitals, clinics, managed care organizations, etc.;
- 5. all government/with services involving health care activities:

- 6. all law enforcement agencies in Guam;
- 7. all courts in Guam; and

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- 8. all peer review bodies in Guam.
- (b) A medical licensee's voluntary resignation from the staff of a health care organization or voluntary limitation of his or her staff privileges at such an organization shall be promptly reported to the Board by the organization and the licensee if that action occurs while the licensee is under formal or informal investigation by the organization or a committee thereof for any reason related to possible medical incompetence, nonprofessional conduct, or mental or physical impairment.
- (c) Malpractice insurance carriers and affected licensees shall be required to file with the Board a report of each final judgment, settlement or award against insured licensees. Licensees not covered by malpractice insurance carriers shall be required to file the same information with the Board regarding themselves. All such reports shall be made to the Board promptly (e. g. within thirty (30) days).
- (d) Upon receiving reports concerning a licensee, or on its own motion, the Board shall be permitted to investigate any evidence that appears to show a licensee is, or may be, medically incompetent, guilty of unprofessional conduct, or mentally or physically unable to engage safely in the practice of medicine.
- (e) Any person, institution, agency or organization required to report under this provision of the Medical Practice Act who does so in

good faith shall not be subject to civil damages or criminal prosecution for so reporting.

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- (f) To assure compliance with compulsory reporting requirements, specific civil penalties shall be established for demonstrated failure to report up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) per instance.
- (g) The Board shall promptly acknowledge all reports received under this Section. Persons or entities reporting under this Section shall also be promptly informed of the Board's final disposition of the matters reported.

Section 12213. Protected Action and Communication.

- (a) Immunity. There shall be no monetary liability on the part of, and no cause of action for damages should arise against, any current or former member, officer, administrator, staff member, committee member, examiner, representative, agent, employee, consultant, witness, or any other person serving or having served the Board, either as a part of the Board's operation or as an individual, as a result of any act, omission, proceeding, conduct or decision related to his or her duties undertaken or performed in good faith and within the scope of the function of the Board.
- (b) Indemnity. If a current or former member, officer, administrator, staff member, committee member, examiner, representative, agent, employee, consultant, or any other person serving or having served the Board requests the government of Guam to defend him or her against any claim or action arising out of any act, omission,

proceeding, conduct or decision related to his or her duties undertaken or performed in good faith and within the scope of the function of the Board, and if such a request is made in writing at a reasonable time before trial, and if the person requesting defense cooperates in good faith in the defense of the claim or action, the government of Guam shall provide and pay for such defense and shall pay any resulting judgment, compromise or settlement.

(c) Protected Communication.

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- 1. Every communication made by or on behalf of any person, institution, agency, or organization to the Board or to any person(s) designated by the Board relating to an investigation or the initiation of an investigation, whether by way of report, complaint or statement, shall be privileged. No action or proceeding, civil or criminal, shall be permitted against any such person, institution, agency or organization by whom or on whose behalf such a communication was made in good faith.
- 2. The protections afforded in this provision shall not be construed as prohibiting a respondent, or his or her legal counsel, from exercising the respondent's Constitutional right of due process under the law.

Section 12214. Unlawful Practice of Medicine: Violations and Penalties. (a) It shall be declared unlawful for any person, corporation or association to perform any act constituting the practice of medicine as defined in the Medical Practice Act without first obtaining a medical

license in accordance with that Act and the rules and regulations of the Board.

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- (b) The Board shall be authorized to issue a cease and desist order and/or obtain injunctive relief against the unlawful practice of medicine by any person, corporation or association.
- (c) Any person, corporation or association performing any act constituting the practice of medicine, as defined in the Medical Practice Act or causing or aiding and abetting such action, shall be deemed guilty of a felonious offense.
- (d) A physician located in another state practicing within the state by electronic or other means without a license, full, special purpose or otherwise, issued by the Board shall be deemed guilty of a felonious offense.

Section 12215. Renewal of Licensure. (a) At the time of renewal of licensure, the Board shall require the licensee to demonstrate to its satisfaction his or her continuing qualification for medical licensure. The application form for license reregistration shall be designed to require the licensee to update and/or add to the information in the Board's file relating to the licensee and his or her professional activity. It shall also require the licensee to report to the Board the following information.

- 1. any action taken against the licensee by:
- (i) any jurisdiction or authority, United States or foreign that licenses or authorizes the practice of medicine;

1	(ii) any peer review body;
2	(iii) any health care organization;
3	(iv) any professional medical society or association;
4	(v) any law enforcement agency;
5	(vi) any court; and
6	(vii) any governmental agency for acts or conduct
7	similar to acts or conduct described in the medical practice
8	act as grounds for disciplinary action;
9	2. any adverse judgment, settlement or award against the
10	licensee arising from a professional liability claim.
11	3. the licensee's voluntary surrender of, or voluntary
12	limitation on, any license or authorization to practice medicine in
13	any jurisdiction, including military, public health and foreign;
14	4. any denial to the licensee of a license or authorization
,15	to practice medicine by any jurisdiction, including military, public
16	health and foreign;
17	5. the licensee's voluntary resignation from the medical
18	staff of any health care organization or voluntary limitation of his
19	or her staff privileges at such an organization if that action
20	occurred while the licensee was under formal or informal
21	investigation by the organization, or a committee hereof, for any
22	reason related to possible medical incompetence, unprofessional
23	conduct, or mental or physical impairment;

the licensee's voluntary resignation or withdrawal 1 6. from a national, state or county medical society, association or 2 3 organization if that action occurred while the licensee was under formal or informal investigation or review by that body for any 4 reason related to possible medical incompetence, unprofessional 5 conduct, or mental or physical impairment; 6 whether the licensee has abused or has been addicted 7 7. to or treated for addiction to alcohol or any chemical substance 8 9 during the registration period; 10 whether the licensee has had any physical injury or 11 disease or mental illness within the registration period that 12 affected or interrupted his or her practice of medicine; and 13 9. the licensee's completion of continuing medical 14 education or other forms of professional maintenance and/or 15 specialty evaluation, including board certification 16 recertification, within the registration period.

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- The Board shall be authorized, at its discretion, to require (b) continuing medical education for license re-registration and to require documentation of that education.
- The licensee shall be required to sign the application form for license re-registration and have it notarized. Failure to report fully and correctly shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board.
- (d) The Board shall be directed to establish an effective system for reviewing re-registration forms. It shall also be authorized to

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initiate investigations and/or disciplinary proceedings based on information submitted by licensees for license re-registration.

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Section 12216. Rules and Regulations. The Board shall adopt and enforce rules and regulations to carry into effect the provisions of the Medical Practice Act and to fulfill its duties under the Act. The Board shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law.

Section 12217. Funding and Fees. The Board shall be fully supported by the revenues generated from its activities, including fees, charges and reimbursed costs. All such revenues, including fines, shall be deposited to the Health Professional Licensing Office Revolving Fund. This Fund shall receive all interest earned on the deposit of such revenues. Such funds should be appropriated continuously and should be used by the Board only for administration and enforcement of the Medical Practice Act.

The Board shall develop and adopt its own budget reflecting revenues, including the interest thereon, and costs associated with each health care field regulated. Revenues, and interest thereon, from each health care field regulated should fully support Board regulation of that field. The budget should include allocations for establishment and maintenance of a reasonable reserve fund.

All Board fees and charges shall be set by the Board pursuant to its proposed budget needs. Reasonable notice should be provided for all increases or decreases in fees and charges. A designated officer of the Board, at the direction of the Board, should oversee the collection and disbursement of funds.

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The Guam Auditor's Office, or the equivalent State office should audit the financial records of the Board annually and report to the Board and *I Liheslaturan Guahan.*"

Section 4. Severability. If any of the provisions of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance are held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this Act, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 5. Effective Date. The provisions contained in this Act shall take effect upon enactment.

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Committee on Health and Human Services 24th Guam Legislature

155 Hesler Street Agana, Guam 96910 Tel: (671) 472-3581 • Fax: (671) 472-3582

April 20, 1998

Honorable Antonio R. Unpingco Speaker Twenty Fourth Guam Legislature 155 Hesler Street Agana, Guam 96910

VIA: Chairperson, Committee on Rules, Government Reform and Federal Affairs

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred Bill No. 595 (COR), "AN ACT TO ENACT A NEW ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, TO REPEAL AND TRANSFER CERTAIN SECTIONS ALL PERTAINING TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT," has had the same under consideration and now wishes to report back the same with the recommendation to do pass as substituted.

The Committee votes are as follows:

V	To Do Pass
	Not to Pass
	Abstain
	Inactive File

A copy of the Committee Report and other pertinent documents are attached for your immediate reference and information.

Sincerely,

EDWARDO J. CRUZ, MD

Chairperson.

Enclosure:

Committee Health and Human Services Vote Sheet on Substitute Bill No. 595 (COR)

AN ACT TO ENACT A NEW ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, TO REPEAL AND TRANSFER CERTAIN SECTIONS ALL PERTAINING TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT.

COMMITTEE MEMBER	TO PASS	NOT TO PASS	ABSTAIN	INACTIVE FILE
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Edwards Cruz, Mo Chairpe				
Yolfin Camacho Salas, Vice Chai				
Antonio R. Unpingco, Speaker	& Ex-Officio	<u></u> _		
Anthony C. Blaz, Member	1			
Joanne M.S. Brown, Member		_		
Felix F. Camacho, Monther	/ <u> </u>			
Mark C. Charfauros, Member William BSM Flores, Member				
Wark Forbes, Member				
Lawrence F. Kasperbauer, M.	ember			
Alberto A.C. Lamorena, V.	fember /			
Carlotta A. Leon Guerrero, N	Member			
Low Leon Guerro o, Member	\			
Francis E. Santos, Member				

Committee on Health and Human Services Report On Bill No. 595 (COR)

AN ACT TO ENACT A NEW ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, TO REPEAL AND TRANSFER CERTAIN SECTIONS ALL PERTAINING TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT.

Introduced by Senators E. J. Cruz, J. C. Salas, L. F. Kasperbauer and A. C. Blaz.

PUBLIC HEARING:

The Committee on Health and Human Services, to which was referred Bill No. 595 (COR), "AN ACT TO ENACT A NEW ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, TO REPEAL AND TRANSFER CERTAIN SECTIONS ALL PERTAINING TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT," conducted a public hearing on Monday, April 6, 1998, starting 8:30 a. m., at the Legislative Public Hearing Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Edwardo J. Cruz, Chairperson of the Committee on Health and Human Services convened the hearing promptly at 8:30 a.m. Committee members and other Senators present were: John C. Salas, Vice-Chairperson, William B.S.M. Flores, Lou Leon Guerrero, Carlotta A. Leon Guerrero, Frank B. Aguon, Jr. and Francisco P. Camacho.

TESTIMONY:

Appearing before the Committee was Dr. Robert Leon Guerrero, a member of the Guam Board of Medical Examiners. At the outset, Dr. Leon Guerrero informed the Committee that although he has several questions, he supports the overall intent and requests that Bill No. 596 be passed. Dr. Leon Guerrero enlightened the Committee that the Medical Practice Act has not been amended for approximately 15 years. According to Dr. Leon Guerrero, the last time the Board formally reviewed legislation recommending amending the Medical Act was in 1991. This was a result of draft legislation authored by then Senator Joe T. San Agustin which never passed. After questioning by the Committee, Dr. Leon Guerrero also stated that Bill No. 595 incorporates suggested recommendations

from the Federal State Model Board and urged the Committee and other members of the Guam Legislature to act favorably on the Act.

There being no further witnesses, the Chairperson adjourned the Committee's hearing on Bill No. 595.

FINDINGS:

The Committee finds that:

Passage of Bill No. 595 is designed to update the practice of medicine into the 20th century. The legislation is not new ~ it has been submitted to the Legislature for consideration since 1991. More importantly, Bill No. 595 concurs with U.S. Federal Laws as well as the recommendations of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee, having reviewed the testimonies presented at the public hearing, does hereby recommend to the Legislature that Bill No. 595 (COR), "AN ACT TO ENACT A NEW ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, TO REPEAL AND TRANSFER CERTAIN SECTIONS ALL PERTAINING TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT," be passed as substituted

Profile on Bill No. 595 (COR)

Brief Title:

"Physicians Practice Act."

Date Introduced:

April 1, 1998.

Main Sponsors:

Senators E. J. Cruz, J. C. Salas, L. F. Kasperbauer and A. C. Blaz.

Committee Referral:

From the Committee on Rules, Government Reform and Federal

Affairs to the Committee on Health on Human Services.

Public Hearing:

Monday, April 6, 1998, at the Legislative Public Hearing Room.

Official Title:

AN ACT TO ENACT A NEW ARTICLE 2 TO CHAPTER 12, TO REPEAL AND TRANSFER CERTAIN SECTIONS ALL PERTAINING TO TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A

PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT.

Recommendation:

To do pass as substituted by the Committee on Health and

Human Services.

OVERVIEW AND INTENT:

It is the intent of Bill No. 595 to update the current statutes governing physicians practice on Guam. The legislation concurs with U.S. Federal Law and more importantly the recommendations made by the Federation of State Medical Boards.

ANALYSIS:

Section 1. Repeals Sections 12206 through 12228 of Article 2, Chapter 12, of Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated.

Section 2. Transfer Sections 12201 through 12205 of Article 2, Chapter 12, of Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated to Article 1, Chapter 12, of Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated. Authorizes the Compiler of Laws codify the affected sections.

Section 3. Adds a new Article 2 to Chapter 12 of Title 10 of the Guam Code Annotated to read as follows:

"ARTICLE 2.

PHYSICIANS PRACTICE ACT.

Section 12201. Statement of Policy. Outlines the primary responsibility and obligation of the Guam Board of Medical Examiners to the people of Guam.

Section 12202. Definitions. Clarifies the meaning, usage and intent of certain words and phrases used throughout the Act.

Section 12203. Guam Board of Medical Examiners. Establishes a Guam Board of Medical Examiners (the 'BOARD') composed of seven (7) members appointed by the Governor, as well as the powers and responsibilities of the Board.

Section 12204. Examinations. Provides that No person shall receive a license to practice medicine in Guam unless he or she has passed an examination or examinations satisfactory to the Board. This section also outlines the procedures and requirements for applying for a license.

Section 12205. Requirements for Full Licensure. Outlines the requirements that applicants must submit to the Board prior to processing the applicants request for licensure.

Section 12206. Graduates of Foreign Medical Schools. Provides that applicants from foreign medical schools shall possess the degree of Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, Bachelor of Medicine or Osteopathy or a Board approved equivalent based on satisfactory completion of educational programs acceptable to the Board.

Section 21207. Licensure By Endorsement and Temporary and Special Licensure. Provides that the Board is authorized, at its discretion, to issue a license by endorsement to an applicant who meets the requirements set forth by the Board.

Section 12208. Limited Licensure for Physicians in Postgraduate Training. (a) Provides that the in order to qualify for limited licensure, the applicant should have at least completed all the requirements for full and unrestricted medical licensure except postgraduate training or specific examination requirements.

Section 12209. Disciplinary Action against Licensees. Range of Actions: The range of disciplinary actions available to the Board is delineated.

Section 12210. Procedures for Enforcement and Disciplinary Action. The Board is empowered to commence legal action to enforce the provisions of the medical practice act and to exercise full discretion and authority with respect to disciplinary actions.

Section 12211. Impaired Physicians. For purposes of this Article the term "impairment" is defined as the inability of a licensee to practice medicine.

Section 12212. Compulsory Reporting and Investigation. Provides that any person submit a report to the Board in writing any information he or she has reason to believe indicates a medical licensee is or may be medically incompetent, guilty of unprofessional conduct, or mentally or physically unable to engage safely in the practice of medicine.

Section 12213. Protected Action and Communication. There shall be no monetary liability on the part of and against, any current or former member, officer, administrator, staff member, committee member, examiner, representative, agent, employee, consultant, witness, or any other person serving or having served the Board, either as a part of the Board's operation or as an individual, as a result of any act, omission, proceeding, conduct, or decision related to his or her duties undertaken or performed in good faith and within the scope of the function of the Board.

Section 12214. Unlawful Practice of Medicine: Violations and Penalties. Stipulates that it shall be declared unlawful for any person, corporation, or association to perform any act constituting the practice of medicine as defined in the medical practice act without first obtaining a medical license in accordance with that act and the rules and regulations of the Board.

Section 12215. Renewal of Licensure. At the time of renewal of licensure, the Board shall require the licensee to demonstrate to its satisfaction his or her continuing qualification for medical licensure. The application form for license re-registration shall be designed to require the licensee to update and/or add to the information in the Board's file relating to the licensee and his or her professional activity. It shall also require the licensee to report to the Board the following information.

Section 12216. Rules and Regulations. The Board shall adopt and enforce rules and regulations to carry into effect the provisions of the medical practice act and to fulfill its duties under the act. The Board shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law.

Section 12217. Funding and Fees. The Board shall be fully supported by the revenues generated from its activities, including fees, charges and reimbursed costs. All such revenues including fines shall be deposited to the Health Professional Licensing Office Revolving Fund. This fund shall receive all interest earned on the deposit of such revenues. Such funds should be appropriated continuously and should be used by the Board only for administration and enforcement of the medical practice act.

Section 4. Severability. If any of the provisions of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance are held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this Act, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

Section 5. Effective Date. The provisions contained in this Act shall take effect upon enactment.

24th Guam Legislature Committee on Rules, Government Reform and Federal Affairs



Senator Mark Forbes, Chairman

RECEIVED 24TH GUAM LEGISLATURE COM. HEALTH & HUMAN SVCS.

APR 0 9 1998 MEMORANDUM

TO:

Chairman

Committee on Health and Human Services

FROM:

Chairman

Committee on Rules, Government Reform and Federal Affairs

SUBJECT: R

Referral-Bill No. 595

The above Bill is referred to your Committee as the principal committee. It is recommended you schedule a public hearing at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

MARK FORBES

Attachment



Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature Senator Edwardo J. Cruz, MD

Chairperson, Committee on Health and Human Services 155 Hesler Street, Agana, Guam 96910 • Tel: 472-3581 • Fax: 472-3582

PUBLIC HEARING

Monday April 6, 1998 8:30 to 12:30 p.m., Legislative Public Hearing Room

Agenda

8:30 to 9:00 a.m. Bill 595 - AN ACT TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE 7 TO CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO PROVIDING FOR A GUAM MEDICAL PRACTICE ACT.

9:00 to 9:30 a.m. Bill 594 - AN ACT TO REPEAL AND REENACT ARTICLE 6, CHAPTER 12, OF TITLE 10, OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO THE GUAM BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR PHARMACY PRACTICE ACT.

9:30 to 10:00 a.m. **BILL 501-**AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT §12313, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 12, 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE, AND AMEND §12229, ARTICLE 2 AND §12600 AND §12617.1, ARTICLE 6, CHAPTER 12, 10 GCA

10:00 to 10:30 a.m. Bill 592 - AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND §§18201, 18203(a) AND (g) ALL OF ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 18 OF TITLE 16 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, AS REPEALED AND REENACTED BY P.L. NO. 24-122, RELATIVE TO THE IMPLIED CONSENT LAW AND SURRENDER OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE.

10:30 to 11:00 a.m. Bill 591 - AMENDMENT(S) TO P.L. 24-67: AN ACT TO REPEAL AND RE-ENACT §2303 OF TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR TO PROVIDE SUBSIDIZED IN HOUSE DENTAL CARE FOR ECONOMICALLY INDIGENT CHILDREN THROUGH THE AGE OF SIXTEEN(16).

11:00 to 11:30 a.m. Bill 596 - AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 3201, ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 3, DIVISION 1, OF TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED RELATIVE TO REESTABLISHING THE GUAM CANCER REGISTRY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND TO REPEAL §80113.1 OF CHAPTER 80, DIVISION 4, PART 2 OF TITLE 10 OF THE GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.

11:30 to 12:30 p.m. Bill 598 - AN ACT RELATIVE TO GOVERNMENT OF GUAM EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN §§4301 AND 4302, ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 4 OF GCA AND ESTABLISHING A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER COMMISSIONER IN §12201, ARTICLE 2, CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE 22 GCA, AND ESTABLISHING A GUAM HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN WITH THE MEDICALLY INDIGENT PROGRAM BY AMENDING §2901 THROUGH §2913.68 OF ARTICLE 9, CHAPTER 2 OF TITLE 4GCA AND TO CITE AND MAKE KNOWN THE ACT AS THE "GUAM HEALTH BENEFIT ACT OF 1998."

The Committee welcomes your attendance and input in the form of written and/or oral testimony during the hearing. Thank you for your attention on this matter, and if you should need any special accommodations or questions please contact Angela or Rose at 472-3581.



Twenty-Fourth Guam Legislature Senator Edwardo J. Cruz, MD

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Chairperson

Committee on Health and Human Services

Suite 1-A, Sinajana Shopping Mall Phase II, #777 Route 4, Sinajana, Guam 96926 E-Mail Address: ejc@senecruz.guam.net Tel: 472-3581 Fax: 472-3582



MEMORANDUM

March 31, 1998

То:	Members, Committee on Health and Human Services			
	Ex-Officio Speaker Antonio R. Unpingco	Fax No.:	472~3500	
	Vice Speaker Anthony C. Blaz		472~3562	
	Sen. Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson		472-3433	
	Sen. Joanne M.S. Brown		472~4090	
	Sen. Felix P. Camacho		472~9747	
	Sen. Mark C. Charfauros		472~3440	
	Sen. William B.S.M. Flores		472~3511	
	Sen. Mark Forbes		477~5036	
	Sen. Lawrence F. Kasperbauer		475~2000	
	Sen. Alberto A.C. Lamorena		472~3588	
	Sen. Carlotta M. Leon Guerrero		477-1323	
	Sen. Lou A. Leon Guerrero		472~3832	
	Sen. Francis E. Santos		477~3048	

From: Chairman & Vice Chairman Fax No.: 472~3582

Subj:

Notice of Public Hearing Monday, April 6, 1998 8:30 to 12:30 p.m.

The Committee on Health and Human Services will be conducting a Public Hearing on Monday, April 6, 1998, starting at 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Legislative Public Hearing Room.

The Committee welcomes your attendance and input in the form of written and/or oral testimony during the hearing. Thank you for your attention on this matter, and if you should need any special accommodations or questions please contact Angela or Rose at 472-3581.

Attached is a copy of the Agenda.

We look forward to your participation and attendance.

Sincetely,

EDWARDO J. CRUZ, MD Chairman

CC: All Senators

ÓHN CAMACHO SALAS

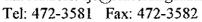
Vice Chairman



Chairperson

Committee on Health and Human Services

Suite 1-A, Sinajana Shopping Mall Phase II, #777 Route 4, Sinajana, Guam 96926 E-Mail Address: ejc@senecruz.guam.net





MEMORANDUM			March 31, 1998
То:	Governor's Office	Fax No.:	477~4826
	Bureau of Planning, Director		477~1812
	Department of Administration, Director		477-6788
	Bureau of Budget Management & Research, Director Department of Revenue and Taxation		472-2825
			472~2643
	Guam Retirement Fund		475~8922
	Department of Education		477~6284
	Guam Federation of Teachers		734-8085
	Mayors Council, Executive Director		477-8777
From:	Chairman & Vice Chairman	Fax No.:	472~3582
Subj:	Notice of Public Hearing		
ŭ	Monday, April 6, 1998		
	8:30 to 12:30 p.m.		

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Attached is a copy of the Agenda.

We look forward to your participation and attendance.

EDWARDO A CRUZ, MD

CC: All Senators

RL/at

Sincerely.

Chairman

ØHN CAMACHO SALAS

Vice Chairman



Chairperson

Committee on Health and Human Services

Suite 1-A, Sinajana Shopping Mall Phase II, #777 Route 4, Sinajana, Guam 96926 E-Mail Address: ejc@senecruz.guam.net Tel: 472-3581 Fax: 472-3582



MEMORANDUM

March 31, 1998

To:	The Dept. of Public Health & Social Services, Director Fax No.	: 734~5910
	The Dept. of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Director	649~6948
	Guam Memorial Hospital, Administrator	649~0145
	Guam Health Planning & Development Agency, Director	477~3956
	Dept. of Integrated Services for Individuals with Disabilities, Dire	ctor 477~2892
	GGARP/SPIMA, Director	477~9015
	Guam Nursing Association, President	477~6877

From: Chairman & Vice Chairman Fax No.: 472~3582

Subj: Notice of Public Hearing

Monday, April 6, 1998 8:30 to 12:30 p.m.

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We look forward to your participation and attendance.

Sincerely

EDWARDO J. CRUZ, MO

Chairman\

CC: All Senators

RL/at

ØHN CAMACHO SALAS

Vice Chairman



Chairperson

Committee on Health and Human Services

Suite 1-A, Sinajana Shopping Mall Phase II, #777 Route 4, Sinajana, Guam 96926 E-Mail Address: ejc@senecruz.guam.net Tel: 472-3581 Fax: 472-3582



MEMORANDUM			March 31, 1998
То:	Calvo's Insurance Underwriter's, Inc., Divisio	477~4141	
	Commission on Licensure	J	477~4733
	Doctor's Clinic, President		646~1725
	FHP, Governmental Affairs Manager		646~6923
	GMHP, Office Manager		477~1784
	Guam Cancer Society, President		477~9450
	Guam Medical Society, President		646~4206
	Moylan's Insurance/MultiCover, Regional Ma	anager	649~5386
	PMC Isla Health System, Director of Clinics	U	649~4507
	Seventh Day Adventis Clinic, Public Relations	;	649~0709
	StayWell Insurance, Plan Administrator		477~5096
From:	Chairman & Vice Chairman	Fax No.:	472~3582
Subj:	Notice of Public Hearing		
J	Monday, April 6, 1998		
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We look forward to your participation and attendance.

EDWARDO

Y. CRUZ) MD

Chairman

CC: All Senators

'IN CAMACHO SALAS

Chairman